

What is a COMPLEX
SENTENCE?

A COMPLEX SENTENCE is ...

independent clause* + dependent clause joined together**

*independent clause = subject + verb (+ modifier)

**dependent clause = subordinating conjunction
+ subject + verb (+ modifier)

Subordinating Conjunctions

- Some examples are...
- after, although, as, as if, as long as, because, before, even though, if, in order that, since, so that, than, though, unless, until, when, whenever, where, wherever, while

A COMPLEX SENTENCE needs
the following punctuation...

If the dependent clause is first...
dependent clause + , + independent clause

Example:

When the teacher raised her hand, the
entire class was quiet.

A COMPLEX SENTENCE needs
the following punctuation...

If the independent clause is first...

Independent clause + dependent clause
(no additional punctuation is needed)

Example: I always try to be thoughtful before
I answer questions.

A COMPLEX SENTENCE needs the following punctuation...

If the dependent clause is in the middle of the
independent clause...

Independent, + dependent clause, clause
(a comma surrounds the dependent clause)

Example: The boy, after his team won the
football game, celebrated with his family.

Let's Review...

- A _____ sentence contains an _____ clause AND a _____ clause.
- A dependent clause must contain a _____ + subject + verb.
- Five examples of subordinating conjunctions are _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

Let's review some more...

- A dependent clause at the beginning of the sentence needs a comma _____ the dependent clause.
- An independent clause at the beginning needs _____ comma.
- A dependent clause in the middle of an independent clause needs a comma _____ and _____ the dependent clause.

Let's Practice...

- Punctuate the following complex sentences correctly.
- Although I love chocolate it is not my favorite food.
- Many students earn A's in their classes because they study hard.
- I am even though I feel young actually almost 40 years old.

Let's try a few more...

- Punctuate the following complex sentences correctly.
- I study for every test even though I know the material.
- The girl when she won the award began to cry and laugh at the same time.
- After I was born it took my parents a week to name me.

To tell the difference between a
compound and a complex sentence...

just look at the conjunction...

And, or, but, yet, so, ; = compound

Subordinating conjunction = complex

Compound or Complex?

The girl and her dog run in the park, but the cat stays home.

The girl gives her cat lots of attention after she gets home.

Both animals, although they don't fight, want her undivided attention.

Let's try a few more...

Even though it takes her a long time, Mrs. Cantergiani keeps trying to make powerpoints.

Ms. Daniel is Mrs. C's idol; she's such a great teacher.

Mr. Zimbardo pretends to hate his students, but he really likes them a lot.